

DINNER HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and acknowledge the celebration that will take place on June 9, 2010 in honor of the 40th anniversary of the League of Conservation Voters, LCV. Since its inception in 1969, LCV has transformed environmental policy into national priorities. I believe that protecting our environment is vital to the health of all Americans and LCV has continued to make that commitment over the past 40 years. With an ultimate goal of ensuring the survival and sustainability of the planet, LCV continues to inform the public about the most important environmental issues facing our nation.

Through organizing at the grassroots level, building coalitions and training the next generation of environmental leaders, LCV is fighting for the future of our environment. Madam Speaker, the League of Conservation Voters has been an invaluable resource for voters across the nation and advocate of the preservation of our natural resources and environmental policies. I would like to congratulate the League of Conservation Voters and wish them much continued success. The dinner honoring the LCV on this landmark anniversary is truly a celebration of a momentous occasion.

JONATHAN D. SCHANUEL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jonathan D. Schanuel. Jonathan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 288, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jonathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jonathan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Becoming an Eagle Scout represents a great deal of dedication and perseverance by Jonathan and I am sure that he will continue to hold such high standards in the future.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jonathan D. Schanuel for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

A TRIBUTE TO THE 2010 ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2010 recipients of the coveted Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Presented annually by the National Ethnic Coalition, NECO, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor pays tribute to our Nation's immigrant heritage, as well as individual achievement. The medals are awarded to U.S. citizens from various ethnic backgrounds who exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve the richness of their particular heritage. Since NECO's founding in 1986, more than 2,000 American citizens have received Ellis Island Medals of Honor, including six American Presidents, several United States Senators, Congressmen, Nobel Laureates, outstanding athletes, artists, clergy, and military leaders.

As we all know, citizens of the United States can trace their ancestry to many nations. The richness and diversity of American life makes us unique among the Nations of the world and is in many ways the key to why America is the most innovative country in the world. The Ellis Island Medals of Honor not only celebrate select individuals but also the pluralism and democracy that enabled our ancestors to celebrate their cultural identities while still embracing the American way of life. This medal is not about money, but about people who really seized the opportunities this great country has to offer and who used those opportunities to not only better their own lives but make a difference in the lives of those around them. By honoring these outstanding individuals, we honor all who share their origins and we acknowledge the contributions they and other groups have made to America. I commend NECO and its Board of Directors headed by my good friend, Nasser J. Kazeminy, for honoring these truly outstanding individuals for their tireless efforts to foster dialogue and build bridges between different ethnic groups, as well as promotes unity and a sense of common purpose in our Nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the good works of NECO, and congratulating all of the 2010 recipients of the Ellis Island Medals of Honor. I also ask unanimous consent that the names of this year's recipients be placed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD following my statement.

Ichak K. Adizes, PhD; Adrienne G. Alexanian; Richard F. Ambinder, MD; Cyrus Amir-Mokri; Anousheh Ansari; Rao S. Anumolu; Robert S. Atallah; Mohamed A. Atassi, MD, FACC; Kevork D. Atiniazian; Nancy H. Bailey; Hon. Rosemary Barkett; Samira Kanaan Beckwith; Sarkis Bedevian; Jerold E. Beeve, MD; Dorothy Beeve, RN; Suraj P. Bhatia; Carole Black; George F. Brown; Richard R. Burey, Jr.; Michael Capasso; Dominic Chianese; Mr. Hank Hyunho Choi; Yen S. Chou; Lin-Chi Chu; Carl J. Clause; Eugene P. Conese, Sr.; John F. Conley; Thomas J. Cook; Edward Cruz; Paul R. Davies; Chief Raymond Diaz; Dr. Edward B. Diethrich; Andre C. Dimitriadis, PhD; Borko B. Djordjevic, MD; Thomas J. Donohue; David

Du; David B. Falk; Lina Fang; Eric Friedberg; Col. Arnald D. Gabriel (Ret.); Rod G. Gilbert; Col. David G. Goulet; E. Bulkeley Griswold; Col. Gina M. Grosso; S. K. Gupta; Wolf Hengst; Gregory M. Hodge, PhD; Maj. Gen. Karl R. Horst; Hon. Jerry M. Hultin; Chief James Jephthah; Ted Johnson; James Keach; Alan Krutchkoff; Tak W. Kwan, MD; William K. Lee, MD; Robert J. Loggia; Wing K. Ma; Vahid Majidi; Fouad Malouf; James Malpeso, MD; MSgt. Chester L. Marcus, Jr.; Chief Denis McGowan; Shekhar Mitra, PhD; Moshen Moazami; Curtis E. Moll; Yasmin Motamedi; Jeremiah A. Mullins; Agneta E. Nilsson; RADM Joseph L. Nimmich; Sr. Irene M. O'Neill; Bedros S. Oruncakci; Hemant Patel, MD; Francis J. Pearn; Richard R. Pergolis; Timothy A. Phillips; Michael J. Piazza; Hon. Rose Pierre-Louis; Kappana Ramanandan; Maj. Gen. Michael S. Repass; Hon. Edward Rollins; Stanley M. Rumbough, Jr.; William J. Ryan; Kenan E. Sahin, PhD; Joseph M. Saponaro; John F. Scarpa; Jane Seymour; Faryar Shirzad; John Shu, Esq.; Dr. Ruth J. Simmons; Prasad Srinivasan, MD; Bert R. Sugar; Hon. Eugene R. Sullivan (Ret.); Jordan P. Thomas; Annie S. Totah; Suzanne von Liebig, PhD; William D. Walsh; RADM Philip A. Whitacre (Ret.); Morrill Worcester; Mohammad Yahyavi; Vartkes Yeghiayan, Esq.; Matt H. Yildizlar; Chang Bin Yim.

HONORING YOSEMITE CONSERVANCY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the Yosemite Conservancy upon its conception. The Yosemite Association and the Yosemite Fund have come together to launch this new organization to protect Yosemite National Park and inspire enduring connections for current and future generations.

In January 2010 the Yosemite Association and the Yosemite Fund, two non-profits with over one hundred years of combined experience in supporting the park, merged. Since 1923, the Yosemite Association has provided opportunities for people to learn about, enjoy and experience Yosemite National Park. The focus has primarily been on providing publications, outdoor programs, history museums, volunteering and a wealth of visitor services. The Yosemite Fund was established in 1988 to focus on projects that enhance the visitor experience, including trails, restoration of vital habitats, preservation of art and artifacts. The Yosemite Fund has supported over three hundred projects funded through fifty-five million dollars in grants. The Yosemite Fund has more than forty projects planned for 2010. The organization has four hundred volunteers annually to assist park visitors, restore natural areas and help with operations, events and fundraising activities. With the merging of these two organizations, the Yosemite Conservancy was created.

The Yosemite Conservancy is the only philanthropic organization dedicated exclusively to the protection and preservation of Yosemite National Park and enhancement of the visitor experience. With the experience and knowledge of the Yosemite Fund and the Yosemite